

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PORT M 01096 210832Z

20

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAJ-01 /058 W

----- 062273

R 210625Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 982

INFO CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT MORESBY 1096

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PP

SUBJ: MOVEMENT TOWARDS CONFRONTATION ON BOUGAINVILLE

1. OCTOBER 20 LOCAL PRESS REPORTED SECESSIONIST LEADERS DRUMMING UP SUPPORT FOR A DEMONSTRATION TO PROTEST THE SUSPENSION OF PROVINCIAL GOVT AND THE APPOINTMENT OF A NON-BOUGAINVILLIAN AS PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.

2. PRESS OCTOBER 21 REPORTS 4,000 DEMONSTRATORS BEGAN A "ROLLING CAMPAIGN" ON BOUGAINVILLE TO FORCE GOVT TO RECOGNIZE THE SECESSIONISTS. DEMONSTRATORS MASSED AT ARAWA, CAMPED INSIDE JOINT GOVT BUILDING BLOCKING ACCESS TO CENTRAL GOVT OFFICES ON THIRD FLOOR AND STATED THEY WOULD REMAIN UNTIL DEMANDS MET.

4. IN MANIFESTO HANDED TO NEW PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER BENSON GEGEYO SECESSIONISTS DEMANDED HE SHOULD QUIT ISLAND IMMEDIATELY, THAT PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS SHOULD BE UNFROZEN, AND THE PROVINCIAL GOVT REINSTATED. LEO HANNETT STATED BLOCKADE JUST THE BEGINNING OF A SERIES OF PROTESTS AND CONCLUDED WITH REMARK "WE COULD CREATE A SITUATION OF TURMOIL WHICH NO POLICE COULD CONTROL THIS TIME IS COMING FAST: OUR PATIENCE IS RUNNING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PORT M 01096 210832Z

OUT."

3. POLICE REPORT NO SERIOUS INCIDENTS, BUT IF SITUATION WORSENS, ANOTHER POLICE RIOT SQUAD MAY BE FLOWN IN FROM RABAU TO REENFORCE THE TWO ALREADY IN BOUGAINVILLE. WHILE SECESSIONISTS STILL EMPHASIZING "PEACEFUL PRESSURES" POLICE BELIEVE EMOTIONS COULD GET OUT OF CONTROL.

4. RADIO NOON OCTOBER 21 REPORTED RIOT POLICE USED TEAR GAS TO DISPELL DEMONSTRATORS WHO THREW STONES AT ARAWA HOUSE, BREAKING WINDOW AND ALSO SMEARED WALLS WITH BETEL THIS MORNING.

5. RADIO ALSO REPORTED TWO DEEP HOLES HAD BEEN DUG AT EITHER END OF AIRPORT DURING NIGHT, AND WERE FILLED IN BY WORKS PERSONNEL THIS MORNING.

6. COMMENT: GPNG IS MUCH DIVIDED OVER POLICY TOWARD BOUGAINVILLE. AMPLE PROVOCATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR THOSE IN GPNG WHO ADVOCATE HARD LINE TO JUSTIFY STERN ACTION. SEEMS LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT NO DECISION WILL BE REACHED UNTIL RETURN OF PRIME MINISTER SOMARE ON OCTOBER 25.
OLMSTED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SECESSION, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PORTM01096
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750364-0979
From: PORT MORESBY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751033/aaaabcvu.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOVEMENT TOWARDS CONFRONTATION ON BOUGAINVILLE
TAGS: PGOV, PP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006